

C97-65

University of Toronto Faculty of Music

## PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Robin Engelman, director

Monday, December 1, 1997 at 8:00 p.m.  
Walter Hall

*This concert is dedicated to the memory of David Luginbühl who was a percussionist at the University of Toronto from 1993 to 1997. Dave's positive outlook on life and his love of music were an inspiration to teachers and students at the Faculty of Music. We celebrate the joy of his music-making and the warmth of his friendship.*

### Programme

Wonders (1997)\*

Julia Cleveland, Dean Pomeroy,  
Loke Tan, Ed Choi, Tim Francom

Thomas Brett

Eight Categories (1991)\*\*

Chris Dearlove, David Simpson, Nathan Archer

Jo Kondo

Mudra (1990)

David Simpson, Solo drum  
Ian Brunskill, Colin Webster, Nathan Archer, Ed Choi

Bob Becker

Nola (1915)

Dean Pomeroy, Solo

Felix Arndt

Jovial Jasper (1927)

Julia Cleveland, Solo

George H. Green

The Ragtime Robin (1924)

Colin Webster, Solo

George H. Green

Rudimental Rhapsody (1997)\*

Ed Choi, Jason Parent, David Simpson  
Jason Parent, Marching Snare

\* World Premiere

\*\* Canadian Premiere

## Programme Notes

Wonders (1997) was written between September 1995 and April 1997, and is scored for two low-A marimbas, one low-F marimba, and two vibraphones. The piece is the last in a series of similar compositions for multiple marimbas and vibraphones which I began writing several years ago with Zoom (1994) (two low-A marimbas one vibraphone). Splash (1994) (two low-A marimbas, two low-F marimbas, two vibraphones), and Beama (1995) (two low-A marimbas, one low-F marimba, two vibraphones). The aim of these pieces is to provide keyboard percussionists with musical material which is idiomatically suited to their instruments. In other words, the marimbas and vibraphones in all of these pieces are for the most part conceptualized as tuned drums. The music is repetitive, harmonic changes occur gradually, and melodies are constantly supported by driving rhythmic patterns.

- Thomas Brett

### Eight Categories (for three percussionists, 1991)

The title refers to the Chinese traditional classification of instruments by their material, "bayin" (literally, "eight sounds"). The eight categories are metal, stone, earth (clay), skin, string, wood, gourds, and bamboo.

When I received a commission from the "Tokyo Summer Festival 1991" to write a percussion trio to be played in a lecture-concert on the ideas and concepts of music in ancient China, part of the conditions given to me was that at least one instrument from each category in bayin should be used in the piece, although the composition itself must be in my own contemporary style that has really no connection to any of the Chinese traditional styles of music. What the festival organizer intended by including my new piece besides the traditional repertoire of Chinese music seemed to somehow "contemporize" the traditional concept, or at least to give a contemporary touch to the atmosphere of the whole lecture-concert on ancient music. Thus, besides the fact described above, this piece has no further connection to Chinese traditional music either in its content, style or structure.

The premiere of Eight Categories in the "Tokyo Summer Festival 1991" was played by Sumire Yoshihara, Yasunori Yamaguchi and Atsushi Sugawara.

- Jo Kondo

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### Mudra (1990)

The term *mudra* refers in general to the narrative use of Torso, facial and hand and arm gestures in many Indian dance forms. Rhythmically, Mudra is based on two important and common structures found throughout North Indian music: 1) motivic development (*palta*) and 2) rhythmic cadence formulas (*ti hai*). These structural devices are used most systematically in the final drum solo section of the piece in which rhythmic, rather than harmonic cadencing is used to create tension and, ultimately, accord.

- Bob Becker

The Ragtime Robin, Jovial Jasper and Nola are examples of ragtime dance music written during the first part of this century. Nola was written for piano but the other two compositions are examples of the highly technical, syncopated novelty xylophone rags written by xylophone virtuoso George Hamilton Green.

- Robin Engelman

### *Tonight's Guest Soloist:*

Jason Parent started marching drum corps in 1983. He marched for eleven years and "aged out" in 1993 with the Phantom Regiment of Rockford, Illinois. In 1993 he won the Drum Corps International world individual snare drum championship as well as the Percussive Arts Society championship. As an instructor, he has taught the Phantom Regiment, the Spirit Performing Youth Ensemble of Toronto, and the Yum Kwong High School Drum and Bugle Corps, Seoul, Korea. He currently teaches the Kiwanis Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps of Kitchener where he has taught since 1995. Jason holds an Honours Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Windsor and presently works at Celestica Inc., Toronto.